

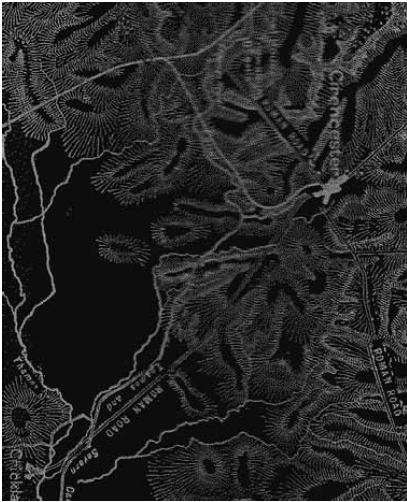
an anti-material, a void, a vacuum that incites the need for action, an energy source, a breath, a pause, a thought



during the last two or three decades a considerable change has taken place in this respect, and a large number of huge blocks have sprung up in almost every part of the metropolis, which present features similar to those of the French and Scotch systems. In the poorer districts, these buildings, some of which accommodate several hundred families, have been erected chiefly for the benefit of artisans and the labouring classes



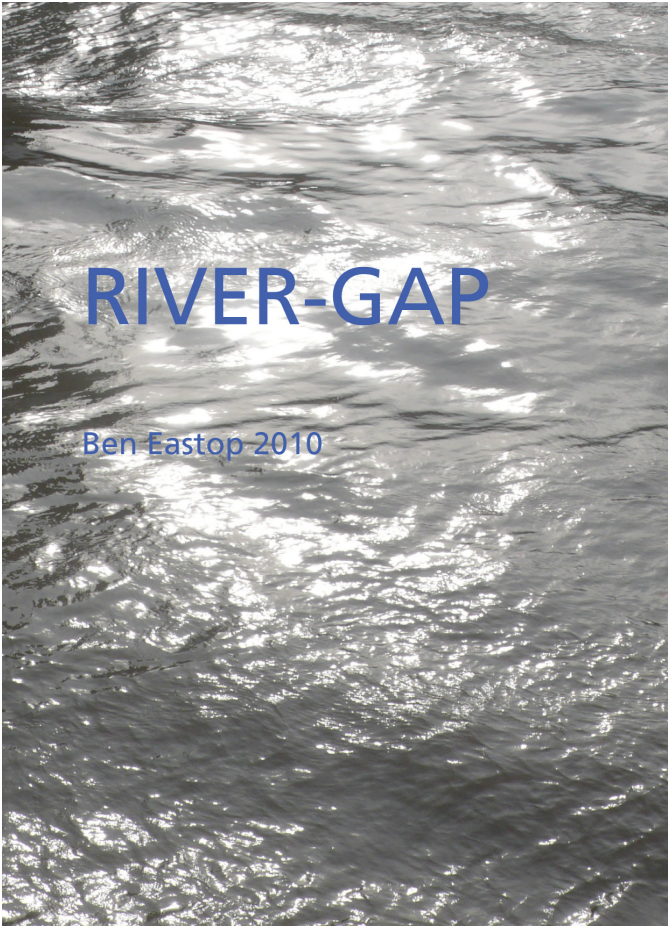
but after a while we perceive that in this moving chaos there are two well-marked currents, fed by as by so many affluents, and that these currents, though flowing in opposite directions, carefully avoid each other. Beneath the crowd passing along the tops of omnibuses, and in carriages, there moves another crowd, which glides between the wheels, dives beneath the horses' heads, and flows in contrary streams along the pathways.



# RIVER-GAP

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Ben Eastop 2010



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the edge, from stationary to a state of motion, eddies of movement, the point of departure, the middle, the journey



# DIFFUSION

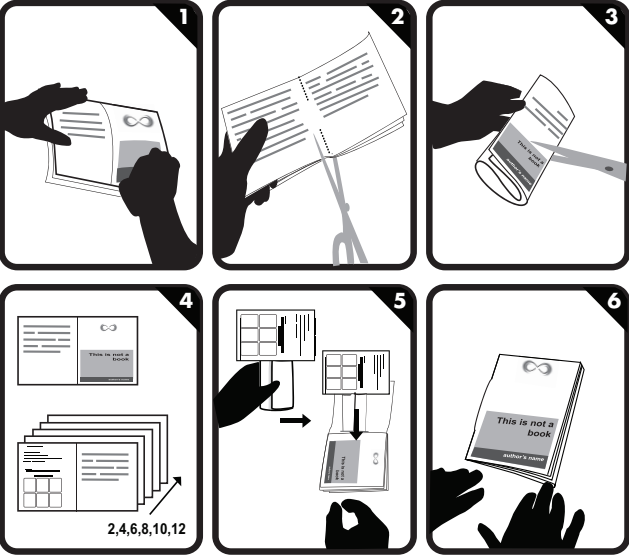
## River Gap

Ben Eastop  
Commissioned as part of Proboscis' City as Material series

2011-01-02

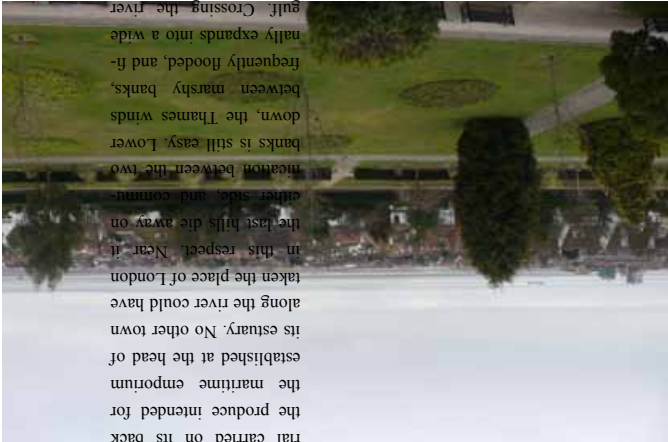


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2,4,6,8,10,12

The deep yet gentle river which drains that basin has from time immemorial carried on its back the produce intended for the maritime emporium established at the head of its estuary. No other town along the river could have taken the place of London in this respect. Near it the last hills die away on either side, and continually expands into a wide gulf. Crossing the river by the dwellers on the Lower Thames desirous of crossing from shore to shore, preferred to journey up to London in order that they might effect their purpose with ease and safety.



a space, a break, a distance between one state and another, from one kind of consciousness to another, a punctuation or interregnum, a break in continuity that replenishes the imagination



going through, get-  
ting over, getting  
around, a physical  
education, bridging



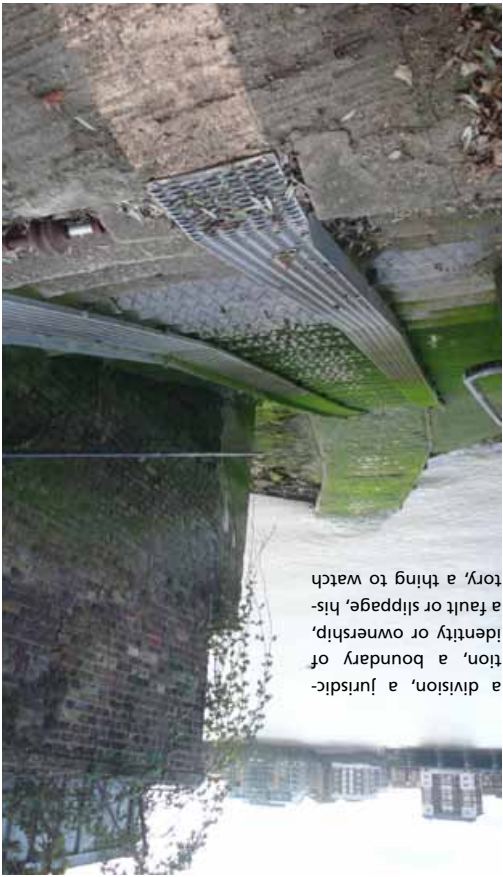
London has often been likened to a province covered with houses. If we but enter this labyrinth of streets, we feel as if steam-power alone were able to extricate us. Even the hardest pedestrian yelds to fatigue when traversing this interminable city. Street follows street, and the chance of obtaining a glimpse of the horizon is a remote one.



of the town to the other. traveling from one end likened to moving quays man cargoes, may be or replenished their hu- as they have discharged pier, and start as soon every instant at some ture steamers, which stop ing trains. These minia- incessantly beneath pass- bridge quivering almost der the arches of a railway appear and disappear un- to stern with passengers, ers, crowded from stem- numerous small steam- the tide. Above the bridge, rent or struggling against carried along by the cur- the manoeuvring vessels, hardly wide enough for intervening space being with a forest of masts, the see both banks fringed and looking seawards, we Standing upon this bridge



anticipation, forebod-  
ing, portent, the un-  
known, just around  
the corner, hidden,  
expectant, lean-  
ing and wondering

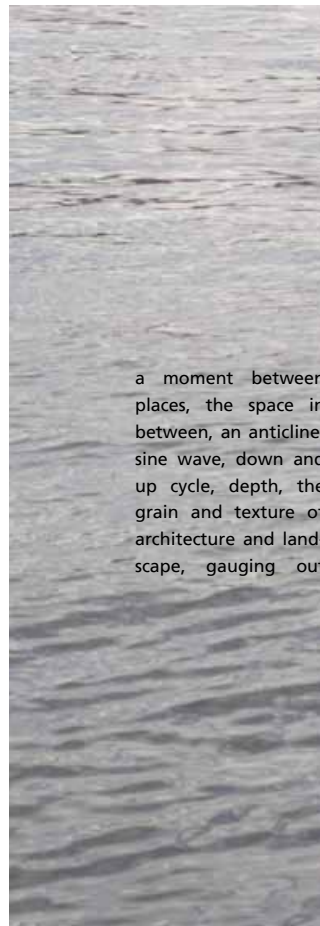


a division, a jurisdiction, a boundary of identity or ownership, a fault or slippage, history, a thing to watch

Thus the formation of fetid mudbanks has been arrested, and large quantities of valuable fertilising substances are no longer allowed to run to waste. Extensive tracts of barren land have been brought under cultivation or transformed to rich meadows and grazing grounds.



So prestigious is the extent of London that there exists no point of vantage where the whole of it can be seen spread out beneath us, even though the prospect be not obscured by fog or smoke. From the top of the Monument raised in the centre of the City, we merely see the roofs of numberless houses, the steeples of hundreds of churches, and a crescent-shaped reach of the river



a moment between places, the space in between, an anticline, sine wave, down and up cycle, depth, the grain and texture of architecture and landscape, gauging out

